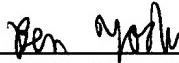


applicants therefore submit that the claims are in condition for allowance. Allowance of claims 11, 13, 14, 16 and 18-21 at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

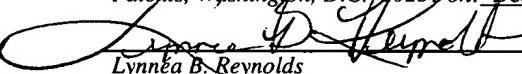
Dated: December 16, 1998


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on: December 16, 1998.


Lynnea B. Reynolds

12/16/98
Date